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FLOOR DEBATE

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supporting the rules...whoops, that's not the right one. (Laugh) With that, I would just...I would like to ask that you understand that the provisions of LB 474 would be amended by the committee amendments with a small technical change that's necessary due to the passage of time. LB 474 reconfigures the districts of the Nebraska Wheat Development Board, and we are asking that this LB 474 then be used as the...to take the place of the wheat...the pork checkoff, the legislation that we had introduced in LB 803. LB 474, and this amendment proposes to do two things; first it would provide for the division of the state into six wheat board districts drawn to roughly contain equal wheat production. Secondly, the bill proposed providing for one member appointed at large. This at-large membership is consistent with other commodity boards we have established in state law. As introduced, LB 474 would have established a qualification that the at-large member be from an area of the state where wheat is the predominantly grown crop. The committee amendments to the bill would omit this qualification as the committee felt that the predominantly grown crop qualification was somewhat vague and subjective and would have potentially opened the process of appointment of the at-large member to a challenge. Also the committee felt that the appointment of the at-large member should be open to any qualified producer from the state rather than giving automatic extra representation to any one area of the state. I think that with that I would ask that Senator Erdman present his...I think he has a map that he sent around and he would like to talk about that a little bit.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Erdman.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Mr. President and Senator Dierks. I did have a packet of information distributed to you explaining exactly actually within the maps drawn what the changes will look like. This was presented through the Ag Committee, as Senator Dierks pointed out. It is something that I have been working very closely with the wheat board on, something that they agree on, and something that the ag organizations that are affected by this agree on as well. The main difference is obviously changing from the seven current districts to the six, and having the one at-large member. It is consistent with other